

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: §  
Johnston, et al. §  
§  
Serial No.: 10/680,724 § Group Art Unit: 3672  
§  
Confirmation No.: 8287 § Examiner: Daniel P. Stephenson  
§  
Filed: October 7, 2003 §  
§  
For: EXPANDER TOOL FOR § Customer No. 36735  
USE IN A WELLBORE §  
§

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 11, 2006**

In response to the Office Action dated August 11, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 11, 2006, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0487/WBP for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.